

Little Snoring Parish Council

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Present: S Harvey, S Price (Vice Chair), C Redford, A Talbot (Chair),

Meeting of the Parish Council on Monday 28 November 2022 at 7.30 pm in the Community Room

Minutes

Welcome

1. **Apologies** received from Liz Spanton and the Clerk. Note 2 vacancies on the council., as below.
2. **Declarations of pecuniary interest** in agenda items: none
3. **Minutes of the previous Meetings** (12 September) were approved and signed.
4. **Matters arising:** Progress on items from previous meetings for information or reminders only. Items not on this agenda requiring decisions will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.
 - i. To note that Chair met up with the Head of School, Ms Woodrow, to discuss how the Parish Council and Primary School could work together for the benefit of the community. The Hall (with facilities) was available for bookings outside school hours. It was confirmed that the outside lights at the school would be adjusted so that they would not be on throughout the night.
 - ii. It was noted that the outside lights at the school remain on. AT will send email to head.
5. **Co-option** the fill the vacancies. No interest had been received to date. To remain an item for next meeting. Suggestions for people who could be approached welcome.
6. **The meeting will be temporarily closed for Parishioners to express any concerns they may have and for District and County Councillors to report.**
No Parishioners or Councillors were present. Note emailed report from S Aquarone was received.
7. **Highways:**
 - i. Simon and Steven raised the lane markings on approach to the A148 roundabout near Morrisons. These have faded. Despite there being a sign, during the summer there were several near misses. Could this be referred to the County Council Roads Dept. to get repainted.
 - ii. There was discussion from all regarding the road by the church. It was felt that this was a hazard. Ideally the speed limit would be moved, but if this is not possible, then some form of warning/control would be desirable: suggestions were the “gates” seen at the entrance to villages and/or partial narrowing of the road and signage to prioritise traffic leaving the village. This to be raised with the CC Roads to get feedback, and if the PC were required to provide funding this can be included in our plans.
 - iii. Pavement parking in Kettlestone Road continues to be an issue. To be raised with the appropriate authority.
8. **SAM2:** Kettlestone Road, Highest recorded was 70 mph. 85% below 30 mph. Average speed 23mph. Now on the A148.
9. **Planning**
 - i. **Applications received: none**

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ii. Decisions made by NNDC: none

iii. Other

- a. It was noted that correspondence had been received from the Community Housing Enabler regarding possible affordable housing sites in the village. (Note S Harvey now declaring an interest re possible land sale). The council was supportive of the idea, though concern was raised regarding the effect on house prices.

10. Offshore Wind and the Holistic Network Design

- i. It was noted that the MP Jerome Mayhew had responded to the letter. He explained that he had already raised the point that East Anglia should not be excluded from the Holistic Network Design and that the Offshore Wind needs to be addressed properly and piecemeal.

11. Donations: It was resolved that the Council in accordance with its powers under sections 137 and 139 of the Local Government Act 1972, should incur the following expenditure which, in the opinion of the Council, is in the interests of the area or its inhabitants and will benefit them in a manner commensurate with the expenditure.

- i. Last year donations of £25 each were made to East Anglian Air Ambulance, Tapping House (Hospice), Heritage House (day care centre), and Norfolk Wildlife Trust; £50 to Citizens Advice and £325 to the PCC for churchyard maintenance.
- ii. It was agreed to repeat the above donations for this year, and the council also agreed to a donation of £25 to the RNLI.

12. Financial Business

- i. Bank balances as at 28 October: Savings ac £14,609.18; Current ac £1,874.06
- ii. Receipts since 30 July: Funds from Spring Celebration in the Church (for churchyard conservation project) £268.38; NNDC Precept £6,250; Cuppa £70; booking for Community Room £15; HMRC VAT refund £1817.36; £25; NCC recycling credits £228.62; interest £2.79
- iii. Regular payments since 30 July: Anglian Water £34; CGM grounds maintenance £748.15; Opus Energy £49.25; Salary & on-costs.
- iv. The following payments were approved

to whom (details of payment)	Date	cheque no.	Amount
Fakenham Prepress Solutions (newsletter)	22/09/22	100888	£108.00
Joanna Otte (expenses)		100889	£72.60
Countrystyle Recycling Ltd (bottle bank)		100890	£21.00
East Anglian Air Ambulance (donation)		100891	£25.00
Tapping House (donation)		100892	£25.00
Heritage House (donation)		100893	£25.00
Norfolk Wildlife Trust (donation)		100894	£25.00
RNLI (donation)		100895	£25.00
Citizens Advice (donation)		100896	£50.00
Lt Sn PCC (towards grass cutting of graveyard)		100897	£325.00

13. Action Plan for the Parish Council

- i. It was agreed the definition of our role would be adopted and used as required, e.g. in discussion with prospective Parish Councillors. *Parish council is a local authority that makes decisions on behalf of the people in the parish and has an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community. It is the level of government closest to the community, with the district authority above it in the hierarchy. As it is the authority closest to the people, parish councils are invariably the first place people will go with concerns or ideas. For this reason they are a vital part of any community:*

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- *representing the local community*
 - *delivering services to meet local needs*
 - *striving to improve quality of life in the parish'*
- ii. Ideas for projects to be implemented by the council were discussed, and each councillor should bring forward their proposals to the next meeting (Jan). The discussion already produced the following ideas: Fence the play area to reduce dog fouling; Picnic tables on the field; Traffic control by the church.
 - iii. It was noted that the issue of the play area and dog fouling was of concern to the parishioners, as expressed on the Facebook Group (Simon has the details). The council felt that a quote should be obtained (as a guide) for the next meeting so this can be progressed, with fund raising if necessary.
 - iv. Aim to have agreement as part of an action plan for the year 2023-4.

14. **Training** – there was no interest in training.

15. Set the Budget and Precept for 2023-24

- i. The attached budget figures were reviewed. No immediate issues, however the increase in Precept was thought to be low given the current inflation rate. The effect on the cost services (grass cutting dog bins etc) was not known, and a contingency was felt to be required.

Expected bank balance at the end of 2022-23: £11,948

See list for reserved funds of £11,672 (including NNDC grant for Arts & Crafts: £1,172 remains)

Projected expenditure for 2023-24: £14,540

Projected income for 2023-24: £14,503

including a Precept of £12,600 (an increase of £100 or 0.8%)

- ii. Other likely calls on planned expenditure: possible projects may require funding, and also contingency for inflation.
- iii. **Agreement of the precept for 2023-24 – held over for the next meeting**
- iv. Complete the Precept form for the District Council, as above.

16. Presentation of the village and reports

- i. **Health and Safety:**
 - a. Report (assets around the village) – no report
- ii. **Grass cutting** around the village – not being carried out as required. The Clerk is obtaining quotes from alternative suppliers.
- iii. **Churchyard Conservation Project.** Report from the Working Group:
 - a. Clear-up day 27 October. Although it was rather wet, seven volunteers cleared a large area on the left of the path from the war memorial to the tower, a smaller area on the right of the path, the length of the path and along the south side of the Church, as well as removing the ivy from both the south and east walls. The arisings and waste plant material were put in the far right corner – about 14 builders sacks of 'grass', two sacks of brambles and nettles, and a trug of ivy. The right hand side of the path and the south and east sides for the Church were finished off the next weekend.
 - b. The plan is to keep the area around the bench clear and tidy. (A wild rose growing next to a gravestone to the left of the bench). It was thought perhaps we could plant some low maintenance plants here such as lavender and rosemary (suggestions welcome).
 - c. Thank you to all the volunteers.

17. Community Room

- i. Community Supermarket 1st and 3rd Tuesdays 1 – 3 pm. It was noted that Little Snoring Charity was happy to pay the small registration fee if a person in the village needs it. Advert to go in Newsletter. If the organisers contacted the school they may also help with publicity.

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ii. The Cuppa Cakes and Chat continues usually on the first Monday in the month.

18. Community events / celebrations

- i. Working Group to celebrate the Coronation on 6 May 2023 – the School is planning for the day, children's event/ picnic in the afternoon, adults' event in the evening. Council agreed to support this initiative and if needed should be prepared to contribute.
- ii. It was noted that bottle Tombola and face paints are still to be used. These could be donated to the above event.

19. Newsletter

Simon suggested an article to say thanks to the volunteers in the village such as the litter pickers. This was felt to be a good idea, but we need to collate everyone who does things so that no one gets left out.

20. **Correspondence:** circulated as usual.

21. Next meeting: **Monday 9 January 2023** at 7.30 pm in the Community Room.

Parish Council meeting closed 20:40

Meeting of Little Snoring Playing Field Association

Following the Parish Council meeting on 28 November 2022

1. **Minutes** of last meeting (12 Sept) to be approved and signed.
2. **Financial business:** balance as at 10 Sept: £1510.45
3. To note that the **Annual Return** for 2021-22 has been made to the Charity Commission.
4. **Other business**

Meeting closed 20:45